

From the day they are born, boys and girls are treated differently. Couples with a newborn child are first asked by family and friends if they had a boy or a girl, and are asked secondly about the child's health and whether or not it's healthy. The first priority is to establish its sex, little boys get blue blankets and little girls get pink blankets. Boys are raised to believe you need to grow up a strong, powerful, successful man. To be considered lady-like, girls are supposed to be submissive and conservative, however, with this type of attitude, women are more likely to become homemakers and stay-at-home moms with no real career or goals. Teenage girls are bombarded daily with images of beautiful, rich woman. Of course this leads to many girls thinking the only way to become rich or famous is to be beautiful. Many girls are raised to believe that her strongest asset is her appearance. There is no doubt that we have come a long way since the days of women's oppression, but the stereotypes of women are just as alive as ever. Our culture is to blame for these stereotypes and women need to break the mold

Appearance and wealth are not the only thing being pushed on women these days. I believe that women are made to feel we are even limited to the career they may have. It is even apparent here at CMU where the female to male ratio is something around two to one; because the college is known for its teaching program. I feel many women are pigeon-holed into a career that is stereotyped as a "woman's job" such as interior decorators, those who teach, psychologists, and receptionists. There is nothing wrong with any of these jobs by any means, but I believe women often feel limited to what you can do with your life because of these stereotypes. Therefore I believe that women need to break out of the mold. Women have the odds stacked against them in our society, so they need to push even harder to break these stereotypes. If women want to free themselves from the Barbie girl image associated with success and erase the sexist stereotypes, we are going to have to brake out of the doll house.